



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 09 March 2007

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- The Associated Press reports gasoline prices have jumped above \$3 a gallon in some parts of California and Hawaii, and may hit that level in other parts of the country when the busy summer driving season approaches. (See item [1](#))
- The Los Angeles Times reports the Department of Homeland Security has announced that it will fill in seven cross-border tunnels along the California-Mexico border that critics say pose a national security risk because they could be reused by smugglers. (See item [11](#))
- Digital Communities reports that although the administration has warned repeatedly about the threat of a terrorist nuclear attack and spent more than \$300 billion to protect the country, the U.S. remains ill-prepared to respond to a nuclear catastrophe. (See item [28](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information Technology and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

Other: [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS Daily Report Contact Information](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *March 08, Associated Press* — **Gas prices rise above \$3 a gallon in California, Hawaii.** Gasoline prices have jumped above \$3 a gallon in some parts of California and Hawaii, and may hit that level in other parts of the country when the busy summer driving season approaches. Analysts say drivers should brace for more increases in the coming weeks. Crude

oil, which makes up about half the price of gasoline, is trading above \$60 a barrel. Higher demand, refinery maintenance and fears about springtime shortages are also driving up prices, particularly on the West Coast. Analysts said it's unlikely other parts of the country would see \$3 gasoline before summer without a major disruption in supply.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2007/03/08/financial/f021312S65.DTL&type=business>

2. *March 08, Associate Press* — **Exxon Mobil to spend billions on exploration.** Exxon Mobil Corp. said Wednesday, March 7, that it would spend some of its record profits on more than 20 new global exploration projects in the next three years, investments expected to add one million barrels a day to the company's volumes at peak production. The Irving, Texas, company, the world's largest publicly traded oil company, produced about 4.2 million barrels a day in 2006. Chairman and chief executive officer Rex Tillerson said Exxon Mobil's capital spending would be about \$20 billion a year through the end of the decade. The company's capital-spending tab in 2006 was nearly \$20 billion, up \$2.2 billion from 2005. Tillerson said the company, which produces about 3 percent of the world's oil, would continue to pursue projects in mature markets such as North America, Australia and the North Sea as well as growth regions such as the Middle East, Russia and West Africa.

Source: <http://www.philly.com/mld/philly/business/16857564.htm>

[[Return to top](#)]

Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

3. *March 08, CBS 2 Chicago* — **Fumes linger after chemical spill.** Emergency crews have cleaned up a chemical spill in near southwest suburban Willow Springs, IL, but warn that contaminated air has still been irritating victims' eyes and throats. The spill sent 14 people to the hospital. Thirty-seven more were treated and checked out on the scene, complaining of eye and airway irritation. A Willow Springs Fire Department spokesperson said it started Wednesday night, March 7, when a forklift punctured a 55-gallon drum of an unidentified acrylic that he said smelled like fingernail polish. About 15 to 20 gallons spilled at Ashland Chemical, at 8500 S. Willow Springs Rd. The chemical was not toxic, but it was a severe irritant. A cleanup company was sent in to take care of the spill, but on and off all night, people working at a rail yard and UPS facility across the town line in Hodgkins complained about coughing and shortness of breath, and thus required medical attention.

Source: http://cbs2chicago.com/local/local_story_067055837.html

[[Return to top](#)]

Defense Industrial Base Sector

4. *March 07, GovExec* — **Defense officials catalog acquisition initiatives.** In a recent jargon-packed report on new initiatives, Department of Defense officials assured lawmakers they would transform contracting practices that have been criticized as slow and disjointed. The report, prepared in response to the 2007 Defense authorization bill, amounted to a laundry list of new and old initiatives and programs. The list was broken down into the following headings:

workforce, acquisition strategy, development of contract requirements, budgeting, industry collaboration and system-level organization. Kenneth Krieg, undersecretary of Defense for acquisition, technology and logistics, introduced the report as building on common themes from four recent studies that have addressed procurement issues: the Defense Acquisition Performance Assessment Project; the Defense Science Board Summer Study of Transformation; a report by the Center for Strategic and International Studies; and the Quadrennial Defense Review. "A sense of urgency has been established by the department to streamline and simplify the acquisition system with aggressive initiatives to provide lasting solutions for predictable performance," Krieg wrote.

Report: http://www.govexec.com/pdfs/DATR_march7.pdf

Source: http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=36303&dcn=to_daysnews

5. *March 07, Los Angeles Times* — **Four F-14s seized by federal agents.** Federal agents seized four F-14 Tomcat fighters in San Bernardino County, CA, on Tuesday, March 6 -- three from airplane museums — after investigators determined that the jets were not demilitarized and were improperly sold or transferred to private companies, including the producer of the TV show "JAG," authorities said. When the jets were retired in the mid-1990s at the Naval Air Station at Point Mugu, Navy officials failed to ensure that the aircraft were stripped of military hardware, according to a court affidavit filed by an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent. Investigators learned about the F-14s during an undercover sting operation when they were investigating the potential sale of jet fighter parts to Iran, according to the affidavit. Federal officials fear that parts from any decommissioned F-14 could find their way onto the worldwide black market, stated ICE Special Agent Joshua Barnett in his affidavit, adding that "Iran is the only nation to still have the F-14 in its active fleet." Department of Defense officials have determined that the F-14s should have been destroyed by an authorized contractor when they were taken out of military service between 1996 and 1998, according to the affidavit.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-jets7mar07%2C0%2C5971777.story?track=mostemailedlink>

6. *March 07, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-566T: Defense Acquisitions: Issues Concerning Airlift and Tanker Programs (Testimony).** The Department of Defense (DoD) has continuing efforts to modernize its airlift and tanker fleets by investing billions of dollars to modify legacy airlift systems, such as the C-5 and C-130, and procure new aircraft, such as a tanker replacement. Acquisition has been on Government Accountability Office's (GAO) list as a high risk area since 1990. GAO has reported that elements contributing to a sound business case for an acquisition are missing or incomplete as DoD and the services attempt to acquire new capabilities. Those elements include firm requirements, mature technologies, a knowledge-based acquisition strategy, a realistic cost estimate, and sufficient funding. Acquisition problems that include failure to limit cost growth, schedule delays, and quantity reductions persist, but fiscal realities will not allow budgets to accommodate these problems any longer. Today's testimony addresses (1) the analyses supporting the DoD's mobility capabilities and requirements and (2) actions that are needed to improve the outcomes of weapon system acquisitions. For this testimony, GAO drew from issued reports, containing statements of the scope and methodology used, as well as recently completed work not yet reported. GAO's work was performed in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07566thigh.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-566T>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

7. *March 08, Government Technology* — **Jail time for U.S. law database hacker.** A man who pleaded guilty to conspiring to commit computer fraud and identity theft has been sentenced to one year's imprisonment by a Florida law court. Nineteen-year-old Justin A. Perras of New Bedford, MA, was one of five co-defendants who admitted hacking into computers at information management and workflow solutions provider LexisNexis. The computers were accessed using Trojan horses and social engineering tricks, in order to make unauthorized entries into the company's Accurant database, which is used by law enforcement agencies amongst others. Perras was sentenced to one year in prison, followed by three years supervised release and 100 hours of community service. The other defendants were sentenced in December 2006 for their roles in the conspiracy, and between them must pay LexisNexis \$105,750 in compensation.

Source: http://www.govtech.net/magazine/channel_story.php/104300

8. *March 07, Associated Press* — **Census Bureau posted private data on Web.** The Census Bureau inadvertently posted personal information from 302 households on a public Internet site multiple times over a five-month period, the bureau said Wednesday, March 7. The information included names, addresses, phone numbers, birth dates and family income ranges, said Ruth Cymber, the agency's director of communications. No Social Security numbers were posted, and there is no evidence that the information was misused, Cymber said. But, she added, posting the information violated bureau policies and federal law. The bureau is in the process of contacting the households, located in nine states and the District of Columbia, to offer free credit-monitoring services.

Source: http://www.denverpost.com/headlines/ci_5379665

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation and Border Security Sector

9. *March 08, Boston Globe* — **The next airline charge: Fees to check bags.** Just when passengers thought they'd seen it all in cost-cutting, the discount carrier Spirit Airlines is rolling out a new plan: Charge passengers up to \$10 for every bag they check and \$1 for every Coke they drink. Under its new policies, Spirit will let a passenger bring one piece of carry-on luggage for free. One or two checked bags will be \$5 each for passengers who book online — and \$10 each for people who make reservations by phone or in person at an airport. Spirit, which offers flights from Boston to Detroit, Myrtle Beach, SC, and West Coast cities, says the changes, taking effect in June, will help it phase in fare reductions of 10 to 40 percent. Airlines have already cut back on blankets, pillows, and magazines, and turned once-free amenities like food and aisle seats into revenue sources. But Spirit's new a la carte pricing takes things to another level. And the changes are touching off a wave of dread among travelers, who fear they

could fuel a new round of cutbacks. Water will still be free on Spirit. Competitors said they weren't planning to follow suit. At least not immediately.

Source: http://www.boston.com/business/globe/articles/2007/03/08/the_next_pinch_fees_to_check_bags/

10. *March 08, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-575T: Coast Guard: Status of Efforts to Improve Deepwater Program Management and Address Operational Challenges.** The Coast Guard's Deepwater program is a 25-year, \$24 billion plan to replace or modernize its fleet of vessels and aircraft. While there is widespread acknowledgment that many of the Coast Guard's aging assets need replacement or renovation, concerns exist about the acquisition approach the Coast Guard adopted in launching the Deepwater program. From the outset, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) has expressed concern about the risks involved with the Coast Guard's acquisition strategy, and continues to review Deepwater program management. This statement discusses (1) the Coast Guard's acquisition approach for the Deepwater program; (2) Coast Guard efforts to manage the program, hold contractors accountable, and control costs through competition; (3) the status of the Coast Guard's efforts to acquire new or upgraded Deepwater assets; and (4) operational challenges the Coast Guard is facing because of performance and design problems with Deepwater patrol boats. This testimony contains no recommendations. In 2004, GAO made 11 recommendations on management and oversight, contractor accountability, and cost control through competition. In addition, in April 2006 we reported that progress had been made, but continued monitoring was warranted.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07575thigh.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-575T>

11. *March 07, Los Angeles Times* — **U.S. to fill in seven cross-border tunnels.** The Department of Homeland Security has announced that it will fill in seven cross-border tunnels that critics say pose a national security risk because they could be reused by smugglers. The Los Angeles Times reported in January that the tunnels had not been filled, largely because of jurisdictional issues and a lack of money. "We have the funding and are moving forward," said Michael Friel, a spokesperson for Customs and Border Protection, the agency responsible for detecting and filling in tunnels. Most of the unfilled tunnels are along the California-Mexico border. They include two tunnels between Calexico and Mexicali, as well as the longest tunnel ever discovered, a nearly half-mile-long route connecting warehouses in San Diego and Tijuana. Another passage, which has remained unfilled for 13 years, is known as the "Taj Mahal" because of its lighting system and reinforced concrete walls. The vast majority of the tunnels are small, crudely built passages that are easily destroyed. The seven that will be filled are among the most sophisticated ones found.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-tunnel7mar07.1.271375.story?ctrack=1&cset=true>

12. *March 07, Naples Daily News (FL)* — **Badge, gun stolen from SWFIA; man arrested.** A San Carlos Park man was arrested Tuesday, March 6, on charges he stole a Southwest Florida International Airport (SWFIA) badge and a handgun, valued at \$350, from an unlocked pickup. Authorities said Jon Philip Engdahl, 17, was showing the gun to his co-workers at the Coconut Point Mall at about 5:30 p.m. when they became nervous and called for help. Deputies arrived and found the Lee County Port Authority police badge and an ID card from the agency on

Engdahl, according to sheriff's reports. Hours earlier, Howard E. Reyff of San Carlos Park reported his badge, ID card and a loaded .32–caliber handgun stolen from his Toyota Tundra. Reyff, 53, was shown the items deputies found on Engdahl and said they were his, according to sheriff's reports.

Source: http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2007/mar/07/badge_gun_stolen_swfia_man_arrested/?latest

[[Return to top](#)]

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

[[Return to top](#)]

Agriculture Sector

13. *March 08, Agricultural Research Service* — New guide for identifying the seeds and fruits.

Trying to identify the exotic Laelia orchid is one thing. Recognizing this rainforest resident based on its microscopic, dust–like seeds — among the tiniest in the plant kingdom—is quite another. That's why scientists with the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) in Beltsville, MD, have created a special online database, called the "Family Guide for Fruits and Seeds", for identifying the world's myriad seeds and fruits. Invasive plants — ecologically destructive species that are spreading at an alarming rate in the U.S. — derive a big boost from scattering seeds. Small and lightweight, seeds from invasive plants make the perfect stowaways, hitching rides in cargo and plant material traversing the globe. It falls to regulatory agencies, like the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, to try to stop the entry and spread of noxious weeds into the country. The new seed database created by ARS will be a critical tool to aid their efforts, helping inspectors make tough and tricky seed identifications.

Source: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/News/docs.htm?docid=1261>

14. *March 08, Desert News (UT)* — CWD found in harvested deer. Seven deer tested out of more than 1,800 harvested in Utah last fall were found to have chronic wasting disease (CWD). In addition to the deer tested, laboratory personnel tested 446 elk taken this past fall. None of the elk tested positive for the disease. CWD has never been found in elk in Utah. "The disease appears to be staying within areas where we've already found it," said Leslie McFarlane, wildlife disease specialist for the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. "The La Sal Mountains in southeastern Utah appear to be the hotspot. In central and northeastern Utah, we estimate that less than one percent of the buck population is affected by CWD. In the La Sal Mountains, we estimate about two percent of the buck deer have the disease. "We did not detect any animals with CWD in the Manti unit in central Utah this year," McFarlane added. "We've tested nearly 1,400 deer in that area since the fall of 2003, and we've detected only three mule deer with disease." Of the seven deer that tested positive for the disease this past fall, six were taken on the La Sal Mountains. The seventh was a mature buck taken close to Brush Creek, which is near Vernal.

CWD information: <http://www.cwd-info.org/>

Source: <http://deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,1249,660201323,00.html>

15. *March 08, Associated Press* — **North Korea kills animals after foot and mouth disease outbreak.** Impoverished North Korea has slaughtered hundreds of cows and pigs after an outbreak of foot and mouth disease, according to the World Organization for Animal Health. The outbreak occurred in January at a farm in the capital, Pyongyang, sickening 431 cows, according to a North Korean government report dated Wednesday, March 7. Since the outbreak, quarantine officials have killed 466 cows, including the sickened ones, as well as 2,630 pigs to prevent the spread of the disease, the North's Agricultural Ministry said. The sickened cows were imported from Tieling, China. The last outbreak of foot and mouth disease in North Korea occurred in 1960.
Source: <http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/world/4612274.html>
16. *March 07, United Press International* — **Poultry farm antibiotic bans questioned.** A U.S. study suggests restricting the use of antibiotics at poultry farms does little to cut rates of antibiotic resistance bacteria. University of Georgia researchers discovered chickens raised at antibiotic-free farms and even those raised under laboratory conditions still have high levels of bacteria that are resistant to common antibiotics and have the potential to threaten human health. Professor Margie Lee and colleagues in the university's college of veterinary medicine said the study's findings suggest poultry arrive at the farms carrying resistant bacteria, possibly acquired as they developed in their eggs.
Source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/upi/index.php?feed=Science&article=UPI-1-20070307-14533700-bc-us-poultryfarms.xml>

[[Return to top](#)]

Food Sector

17. *March 08, Associated Press* — **South Korea to lower quarantine standards for American beef imports.** South Korea said Thursday, March 8, that it will lower its quarantine standards this month over banned bone fragments in American beef shipments, paving the way for the resumption of U.S. beef imports. South Korea — once America's third-largest overseas beef market — notified the U.S. of the plan during negotiations in Washington on Tuesday, March 6, and the U.S. did not oppose it, the South's Agriculture Ministry said in a statement. South Korea agreed to resume imports of U.S. beef last year following a three-year ban triggered by fears of mad cow disease. But American beef has not reached South Korean consumers because quarantine authorities have rejected all shipments for containing the tiny bone fragments that South Korea fears could potentially harbor mad cow disease. Under the lowered standards, bone fragments will still be unacceptable. But Seoul will return only individual boxes of meat that contain the bone fragments, instead of rejecting the entire shipment.
Source: <http://business.bostonherald.com/businessNews/view.bg?articleid=187187>
18. *March 07, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — **FDA warns consumers not to drink certain brand of mineral water.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is warning consumers not to drink certain brands of mineral water imported from Armenia due to the risk of exposure to arsenic, a toxic substance and known cause of cancer in humans. The products were distributed nationwide. FDA sampled 500 milliliter green glass bottles and detected the problem. FDA is investigating whether other sizes or packaging are involved. FDA testing of

this water revealed 500 – 600 micrograms of arsenic per liter. FDA's standard of quality bottled water allows no more than 10 micrograms per liter. There have been no illnesses reported at this time.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2007/NEW01581.html>

[[Return to top](#)]

Water Sector

19. *March 08, Associated Press* — **Water park guests sickened, officials investigating.** Illnesses reported by guests at an indoor water park in Mason, OH, may have been caused by chlorine getting into the air after water splashes out of pools and water slides, a county health official said. Investigators have not conclusively determined why dozens of adults and children who visited the Great Wolf Lodge in southwest Ohio suffered rashes, coughing and other minor respiratory or flu-like symptoms. The Warren County and state health departments said the agencies have received about five complaints from groups or families since the beginning of the year.

Source: <http://www.ohio.com/mld/ohio/news/16857913.htm>

[[Return to top](#)]

Public Health Sector

20. *March 08, BBC News* — **Laos teenager dies from bird flu.** A 15-year-old girl from Laos has died from the H5N1 strain of bird flu, becoming the country's first official fatality from the disease. The Laos health ministry said the girl, who lived near the capital Vientiane, died while undergoing treatment at a hospital in neighboring Thailand. A 42-year-old woman, who also lived close to Vientiane, died of suspected bird flu a few days ago. Tests have yet to confirm whether she died of the H5N1 virus. A World Health Organization spokesperson said that there was no link between the two cases.

Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/6429321.stm>

21. *March 08, Fox News* — **Bacteria sweeps through hospitals in Israel killing up to 200.** A deadly bacterium is sweeping through hospitals in Israel and has already caused the deaths of up to 200 people, health officials acknowledged Wednesday, March 7. "Between 400 to 500 people have been infected by the bug, and 30 to 40 percent of them have already died," said Yehuda Carmeli, the head of the epidemiology unit at the Sourasky Medical Center in Tel Aviv. "However, it is important to note that most of them were in a serious condition, and some were suffering from prior medical conditions." Health Minister Ya'acov Ben-Yizri confirmed that *Klebsiella pneumoniae* was responsible for the deaths, but insisted that the victims were already seriously ill when they contracted the deadly bug. Ben-Yizri said his office was investigating, and that there was no reason to panic. He added that the Health Ministry was investigating to see if other countries were encountering similar problems with the bacteria and if there were antibiotics available.

Klebsiella information: <http://www.bacteriamuseum.org/species/Kpneumoniae.shtml>

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,257599,00.html>

Government Sector

22. *March 08, New York Times* — **Suicide shootings at schools in Michigan and Texas.** A 17-year-old shot his ex-girlfriend four times Wednesday, March 7, as they talked in the parking lot of her central Michigan high school and then fatally shot himself in the head, the authorities said. The incident was one of two suicides at an American high school on Wednesday. Earlier in the morning, a 16-year-old boy shot himself at his high school in Greenville, TX, and later died at a hospital, said Lori Philyaw, a spokesperson for the city, which is about 50 miles northeast of Dallas. The police in Midland, MI, identified the gunman there as David Turner and the victim as Jessica Forsyth, also 17.
Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2007/03/08/us/08school.html?_r=1&oref=slogin
23. *March 08, Government Computer News* — **New office to oversee data transfer across classification levels.** The CIOs of the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence on Thursday, March 8, unveiled a joint organization that will manage the technology used to shift information among various levels of classification. The Unified Cross Domain Management Office started operations in Adelphi, MD, on March 1. “This charter allows the DoD and [intelligence] communities to more effectively share information between security domains—that is, to move information between networks at different clearance [classification] levels throughout the federal government,” said Bob Lentz, DoD information assurance policy director. The technology is important partly because it governs the ability of federal intelligence agencies to inform state, local and tribal first responders about pending terrorist threats. The technologies used to act as filters or gateways to control the flow of information across classification levels have at times been referred to as “high-assurance guards.”
Source: http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1_no1/43276-1.html
24. *March 07, Associated Press* — **Pipe bomb found in backpack at Spokane Public Safety Building.** A potentially deadly pipe bomb was found in a backpack at the Spokane, WA, Public Safety Building, officials said. A small pipe wrapped in black tape was revealed when the backpack was scanned Tuesday morning, March 6, at a security checkpoint in the building, which houses city police and the Spokane County sheriff's office. Sylvia Cenicerros, 35, then left her backpack and went from the Public Safety Building to the nearby County Courthouse to attend a preliminary hearing before presiding Superior Court Judge Michael P. Price. Cenicerros, who is in a diversion program from a forgery case, was arrested for investigation of possessing an explosive device without a license and was jailed after both buildings were evacuated for about an hour while the pipe bomb was removed to a courtyard.
Source: http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/local/6420AP_WA_Courthouse_Bomb.html

Emergency Services Sector

25. *March 07, Government Technology* — Conflicting signals can confuse rescue robots.

Prototypes and commercial models of urban search and rescue robots will soon begin to work rubble piles across the country. Too many of these lifesaving robots, however, could be too much of a good thing, according to researchers at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), who report that the radio transmissions of multiple robots can interfere with each other and degrade search and rescue performance. The NIST report lists a number of ways to improve urban search and rescue wireless communications. Options, some of which are currently being investigated by robot manufacturers, include changes in frequency coordination, transmission protocols, power output, access priority, and using relay transformers to increase the range of wireless transmissions. The researchers also suggest establishing new access schemes or software-defined radios that allow interoperable communications.

Report: http://www.nist.gov/public_affairs/techbeat/tb2007_0301.htm#robots

Source: <http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=104292>

26. *March 07, New York Times* — Radio system for New York subways gets a rebuff.

First, the New York City Police Department refused to use a \$140 million system built by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to carry its radio signals underground in the subway. Now, the city's Fire Department (FDNY) has also given the system a failing grade, saying it is permeated with "dead spots" where radio signals do not reach. It is a setback for the authority, which built the system and had defended its work by saying that despite the rejection of police officials, the Fire Department was using the system and was pleased with its performance. That is no longer the case. The Fire Department is preparing to circulate a memo to fire units this week which, in a draft provided by the department, says that "after many months of testing" it has concluded that the subway radio system does not "uphold the communications and safety standards of the FDNY." Fire officials stressed, however, that they planned to work with the authority to fix the problems.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/03/07/nyregion/07mta.html?em&ex=1173416400&en=2281044897549d97&ei=5087%0A>

27. *March 07, 10 News (CA)* — New technology tests local emergency responders.

In an effort to increase public safety and preparedness, San Diego, CA, first responders put their emergency service skills to the test Wednesday, March 7. In a simulated terrorist attack, various local agencies demonstrated how new tools will help them if a real attack ever happened in San Diego. A simulated terrorist attack on the Alvarado Water Treatment Facility was played out in an emergency operations center. Different allied agencies and groups coordinated their response via video downlink from helicopters, Web streaming, real-time video, video conferencing and mapping tools. It's called the regional command and control communications project, which has taken more than a year to organize.

Source: <http://www.10news.com/news/11194398/detail.html>

28. *March 05, Digital Communities* — U.S. unprepared for nuclear terror attack, experts say.

Although the Bush administration has warned repeatedly about the threat of a terrorist nuclear attack and spent more than \$300 billion to protect the homeland, the government remains ill-prepared to respond to a nuclear catastrophe. Experts suggest that, absent a major preparedness push, the U.S. response to a mushroom cloud could be worse than the debacle after Hurricane Katrina, possibly contributing to civil disorder and costing thousands of lives.

"The United States is unprepared to mitigate the consequences of a nuclear attack," Pentagon analyst John Brinkerhoff concluded in a July 31, 2005, draft of a confidential memo to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. "We were unable to find any group or office with a coherent approach to this very important aspect of homeland security." Over the last three years, several federal agencies have taken some steps in nuclear disaster planning. The Department of Health and Human Services has drawn up "playbooks" for a range of attack scenarios and created a Website to instruct emergency responders in treating radiation victims. The Energy Department's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is geared to use real-time weather data to create a computer model that charts the likely path of a radioactive fallout plume.

Source: http://www.govtech.net/digitalcommunities/story.php?id=104230&story_pg=1

[[Return to top](#)]

Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

29. *March 09*, — Trojan Bayrob targets eBay users. Named Trojan.Bayrob, the malware changes user hosts files to redirect traffic destined to numerous eBay sites, including eBay Motors, to a local proxy server and listens on localhost port 80. From there, Bayrob downloads configuration data from the eBay servers, including a number of php scripts. A spokesperson from eBay confirmed today that the auction company is aware of the problem. "We strongly encourage eBay buyers and sellers to never click on or download a link or file that is unfamiliar to them and always ensure your anti-virus software is up-to-date," the spokesperson said.

Source: <http://scmagazine.com/us/news/article/642361/trojan-bayrob-t-argets-ebay-users/>

30. *March 07, CNET News* — Bug may expose encrypted e-mail. A problem related to a widely used open-source cryptography technology could let miscreants tamper with digitally signed and encrypted e-mails. The problem lies in how certain e-mail applications display messages signed using the GNU Privacy Guard, also known as GnuPG and GPG, the GnuPG group said in a security alert Tuesday, March 6. It may not be possible to identify which part of a message is actually signed if GPG is not used correctly, it said. This poses a risk to those who use the cryptographic technology to authenticate or encrypt e-mail messages. According to security company Core Security Technologies, the affected applications include KDE's KMail, Novell's Evolution, Sylpheed, Mutt and GnuMail.org, and Enigmail. The GnuPG group has issued updates to prevent tampering with signed or encrypted messages, but it notes that individual e-mail applications might need updating as well, to correctly display signed messages after applying the GPG update. Enigmail software has already been updated.

Source: <http://news.com.com/Bug+may+expose+encrypted+e-mail/2100-10023-6165277.html?tag=cd.lede>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

31. *March 08, Sacramento Bee* — **Police look for culprits behind homemade bomb left in Rocklin, California.** Rocklin, CA, police continue to investigate an incident in which a homemade explosive device was left in a neighborhood, requiring homes in the area to be evacuated for more than two hours Tuesday afternoon, March 7. Lt. Stuart Davis said the bomb at Park Drive and Farrier Way resembled a "giant firecracker" and had a cigarette as its fuse. Sgt. Scott Horrillo said the cigarette had been lighted but burned itself out before reaching the explosive cylinder. Erwin said Lt. Mark Reed of the bomb squad described the device as "three to four times the size of an M-80. He said that if it had gone off, it could have hurt somebody." Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/101/story/134105.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

General Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

[DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports](#) – The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Website: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703) 983-3644.

Subscription and Distribution Information:

Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703) 983-3644 for more information.

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source

material.